

**§ 551.49 May a foreign manufacturer replace its agent?**

(a) Yes, a foreign manufacturer may replace its agent in the same way it originally designated the agent. It must submit designation documents that meet the form and content requirements identified in the following section of this subpart. Until NHTSA receives designation documents meeting those requirements or a letter withdrawing an existing designation, the individual or domestic corporation originally designated will continue to serve as its agent for service of process.

(b) A foreign manufacturer that has withdrawn but not replaced its agent may not continue to import motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment into the United States. In order to do so, it must appoint a new agent in accordance with the requirements of this subpart.

**§ 551.50 May more than one foreign manufacturer designate the same person as agent?**

Yes, any number of foreign manufacturers separately may designate the same person as agent.

**§ 551.51 May an agent assign performance of its functions to another individual or entity?**

No, an agent may not assign performance of its functions.

**§ 551.52 How long will a foreign manufacturer's designation of agent remain in effect?**

(a) A designation of agent remains in effect until replaced or withdrawn by a foreign manufacturer.

(b) A foreign manufacturer that has withdrawn but not replaced its agent may not continue to import motor vehicles or motor vehicle equipment into the United States. In order to do so, it must appoint a new agent in accordance with the requirements of this subpart.

FORM AND CONTENTS OF DESIGNATION

**§ 551.53 What is the required format for a designation?**

(a) All documents submitted under this subpart must be:

- (1) Original documents;

- (2) Written in English; and

- (3) Signed in ink.

(b) For each signature, the document must indicate in English:

- (1) The date of signature; and

(2) The name and title of the individual who signed the document.

(c) As long as documents submitted by a foreign manufacturer and its agent contain all required information (identified in §§ 551.54, 551.55 and 551.56 below), there is no mandatory format for the designation.

(d) NHTSA encourages foreign manufacturers to use the suggested designation form set forth in the Appendix to this subpart. If completed and executed properly by both a foreign manufacturer and its agent, this form will comply fully with the requirements of §§ 551.53 through 551.65.

**§ 551.54 What are the required contents for a designation?**

The suggested designation form set forth in the Appendix, if completed and signed properly by a foreign manufacturer and its agent, contains all of the information necessary to create a valid designation under this subpart. Specifically, a valid designation must contain:

- (a) A Designation by Foreign Manufacturer; and

- (b) An Acceptance by Agent.

**§ 551.55 What information must a Designation by Foreign Manufacturer contain?**

A Designation by Foreign Manufacturer must contain:

(a) A statement that the designation is in valid form and binding on the foreign manufacturer under the laws, corporate bylaws or other requirements governing the making of designations at the place and time where it is made;

(b) The full legal name, principal place of business and mailing address of the foreign manufacturer;

(c) All trade or brand names, marks, logos or other designations of origin under which the foreign manufacturer's products will be sold; and

(d) The signature in ink, and the name and title of the official or employee signing the designation on behalf of the foreign manufacturer, who